

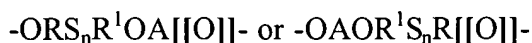
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please note that the page and line numbers referenced below correspond to the SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION filed on July 15, 2004.

Please delete the paragraphs starting from line 16 of page 4 to line 11 of page 6 and insert the following replacement paragraphs with markings to show the changes:

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Each product includes a monomer unit with the following formula:



wherein:

O and S have their normal meaning of oxygen and sulfur;

n is at least 2 and not more than about 8, usually not more than about 4, generally ranging from 2-4, more usually from 2-3;

R and R¹ are the same or different and are organic divalent radicals, usually aliphatic and more usually hydrocarbon, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain, generally R and R¹ having from 2 to 20, more usually 2 to 12 carbon atoms, wherein the total number of carbon atoms for R and R¹ will be in the range of about 4 to 40, usually 4 to 24 carbon atoms; and

A is the residue of an organic dibasic carboxylic acid (lacking the two hydroxyl oxygens set forth in the formula) having from at least one carbon atom and not more than about 60 carbon atoms, generally from about 2 to 60, more usually about 2 to 40, frequently about 2 to 12, and conveniently about 2 to 6 carbon atoms, for acids formed by other than dimerization of two monobasic carboxylic acids and from about 24 to 40 carbon atoms for fatty acid dimers.

Where the composition is formed from the reactants in a mole ratio of its reactants of between about 1:1 and up to and including 2:1 or even greater, and has molecular weight below about 5000 dal, it is referred to as “extended monomer;” the extended monomer will have one of the following formulae:



wherein

O and S have their normal meaning of oxygen and sulfur;

n is at least 2 and not more than about 8, usually in the range of about 2 to 4, more usually in the range of 2 to 3;

F is of the formula $-ORS_nR^1OA[[O]]-$;

F' is of the formula $-OAORS_nR^1[[O]]-$;

m is at least 1;

Z and Z¹ are oxy or amino;

M and M¹ are the same or different and are hydrogen when only a dibasic acid and a di(hydroxysubstituted organic group)polysulfide are reacted, or an organic substituent bonded to oxygen to form an ether or ester as appropriate or nitrogen to form a substituted amino or amide, when with a single group it is referred to as an “augmented extended monomer”; and[[.]]

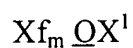
the remaining symbols are as defined previously.

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Please delete the second paragraph on page 9, lines 7-23, and insert the following replacement paragraph with markings to show the changes:

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The high molecular weight poly(thioesters) have the formula:



wherein:

f is the group $-ORS_nR^1OA[[O]]-$;

X is H or HOA-;

X^1 is H or $-RS_nR^1OH$;

m is in the range of about 2 to 100, usually in the range of about 2 to 60, more usually in the range of about 4 to 50; and

the remaining symbols are as defined previously.

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